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## **DE LEÓN BILL TO PROVIDE GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARANCY IN STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

**SACRAMENTO**—Assembly Member Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles), Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, today introduced Assembly Bill (AB) 400, which provides greater transparency and accountability in State Government spending.

“AB 400 will provide taxpayers with the tools to monitor how tax revenues are being spent and empower them to be fiscal watchdogs,” said Assembly Member de León. “The public must have access to all of the facets of our state budget in a matter that is efficient and understandable.”

The bill requires all state agencies and departments to annually post on their websites a detailed breakdown of their general fund and federal fund expenditures, including money spent on state and local administration, program implementation, and the distribution of any grant and bond funds.

“This measure is a critical first step in regaining the trust and faith of Californians in their State Government,” stated Assembly Member de León. “As we continue to address our current budget crisis, it is imperative to engage the public as equal partners.”

Since the passage of the federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (S. 2590, the “FAT” Act) in 2006, several states have followed suit. The Legislatures of Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Hawaii and Minnesota have passed their own versions of “Taxpayer Transparency Acts”, and the Governors of Missouri, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Alaska have implemented similar reforms through Executive Order or action.

AB 400 next moves to the Assembly Rules Committee for assignment to policy committee.

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